File #:

62-117290.

SECTION 5

Serial Scope:

292,293,295,296,299 THRU 301,303,305,312

314, 317, 324,325 327,328 330. THRU 337 339 THRU 341 343 345 THRU 351

leased under the John F. Kennedy Assassination Records Collection Act of 1992 (44 USC 2107

TELETYPE

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12/27/77

1 - Mr. Monahan

1 - Mr. Peelman 1 - Mr. Foster

1 - Mr. Aldhizer

FM DIRECTOR (62-]]7290)

TO ATLANTA (ROUTINE)

BIRMINGHAM (ROUTINE)

CHICAGO (ROUTINE)

LOS ANGELES (ROUTINE)

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E F T O

HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS (HSCA), BUREAU DEADLINE JANUARY 3, 1978.

THE HSCA IS CURRENTLY CONDUCTING INVESTIGATION INTO THE ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. (MURKIN). DATED DECEMBER 3, 3977, THE HSCA REQUESTED THE FBI PROVIDE

THE FOLLOWING:

REC-65

EX-130

SEE NOTE PAGE

OJTA:sas (23)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

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PAGE TWO E F T O

- (]) IDENTIFICATION OF FIELD OFFICE CASE AGENT(S)
 ASSIGNED TO THE MURKIN INVESTIGATION IN ALL ABOVE LISTED
 OFFICES (EXCEPT LOUISVILLE). INCLUDED SHOULD BE THE
 DIVISION, SECTION OR SQUAD OF ASSIGNMENT AND THE NATURE OF
 THE AGENT'S ASSIGNMENT IMMEDIATELY PRIOR TO HIS INVOLVEMENT
 IN THE MURKIN INVESTIGATION.
- (2) IDENTIFICATION OF FIELD OFFICE CASE AGENT(S)
 ASSIGNED TO COUNTERINTELLIGENCE (COINTELPRO) EFFORTS DIRECTED
 AGAINST KING AND THE SOUTHERN CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE
 (SCLC) DURING THE PERIOD]965-]968 IN ALL ABOVE LISTED
 OFFICES. AS ABOVE, INCLUDED SHOULD BE THE DIVISION, SECTION
 OR SQUAD OF ASSIGNMENT AND THE NATURE OF THE AGENT'S
 ASSIGNMENT IMMEDIATELY PRIOR TO HIS INVOLVEMENT IN THE
 COINTELPRO, KING AND SCLC INVESTIGATIONS.

BECAUSE MOST COUNTERINTELLIGENCE ACTIVITY AGAINST KING AND SCLC WAS HANDLED IN THE SUBSTANTIVE INVESTIGATIONS, YOU SHOULD IDENTIFY THE CASE AGENT(S) INVOLVED IN THE SECURITY INVESTIGATIONS OF KING AND SCLC, AS WELL AS THE COUNTELPRO. THIS REVIEW SHOULD INCLUDE INSTANCES WHERE COUNTERINTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES WERE EITHER CONSIDERED OR CARRIED OUT AGAINST KING AND SCLC.

PAGE THREE E F T O

RESPONSES SHOULD BE SUBMITTED BY TELETYPE TO THE ATTENTION OF THE CONGRESSIONAL INQUIRY UNIT, SPECIAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION, BY JANUARY 3, 1978.

UNDER CURRENT OPERATING PROCEDURES EXISTING BETWEEN
THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE AND THE HSCA, DISCLOSURE OF ABOVE
AGENT INDENTITIES TO THE HSCA CANNOT BE PREVENTED. HOWEVER,
THE LEGAL COUNSEL DIVISION OF FBIHQ IS NEGOTIATING WITH THE
HSCA IN EFFORT TO LIMIT PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OF NAMES OF ANY
AGENT PERSONNEL INVOLVED IN THE COINTELPRO ACTIVITIES. SUCH
AGREEMENT WOULD FOLLOW PRECEDENT OF THE SENATE SELECT
COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE WHICH IN ITS REPORT DURING 1976
DID NOT LIST THE NAMES OF ANY FBI PERSONNEL BELOW THE POSITION
OF SECTION CHIEF.

BT

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PAGE FOUR EFTO

NOTE: The HSCA's requests were included in a letter to the Attorney General from G. Robert Blakey, Chief Counsel and Director, HSCA, on 12/13/77. It is believed the HSCA is considering interview of some agents involved in COINTELPRO activities against King and SCLC and in the MURKIN investigation. The HSCA has requested expeditious handling of its King related requests and, therefore, a Bureau deadline in this matter is being established.

Counterintelligence efforts against King and SCLC were carried out in the substantive investigative files as well as under the COINTEL Program. Therefore, the field is being required to provide case agents in all of these matters.

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10 JULY 1973 EDITION GSA FPMR (41 CFR) 101-11.8 UNITED STATES GOWENT

emorandum^{*}

Mr. Clarence M. Kelley FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

21 DEC 1977 :Director DATE:

Federal Bureau of Investigation

:Barbara Allen Babcock BAB: RJSeibert: clw

Assistant Attorney General

Civil Division

SUBJECT: House Select Committee on Assassinations

Attention: Mr. John A. Mintz, Assistant Director Legal Counsel Division

This will respond to your memoranda of November 2 and November 10, 1977, forwarding for our consideration requests for representation of Special Agents William R. Duncan, Robert E. Peters, and Bernard C. Brown before the House Select Committee on Assassinations.

Based on our conversations with Agents Duncan and Brown the substance of which has been orally related to Special Agent Danny Coulson of your office, it is our conclusion that the conduct which will likely be the subject of the Committee inquiry, will not involve actions undertaken by the Agents within the scope of their employment. Accordingly, as Agent Coulson has been earlier advised, it is the decision of the Department not to approve the requests for representation submitted by Agents Duncan, Peters and Brown.

In the event the Committee should expand its inquiry into activities other than those previously discussed by this office with Agent Coulson, please advise me so that I may reconsider the requests for representation.

cc: Benjamin R. Civiletti Assistant Attorney General Criminal Division

> Robert L. Keuch Attention:

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The Deputy Attorney General

December 27, 1977 1 - Assistant Dir.

(Special Invest. Div.)

1 - Mr. Peelman l - Mr. Aldhizer

l - Mr. Long l - Mr. Mintz

2 - Mr. Hotis l - Mr. Coulson

In accordance with Attorney General Order 116-56, this memorandum advises that Special Agent Stephen M. Callender was interviewed on December 6, 1977. A memorandum setting forth Mr. Callender's account of this interview and testimony is enclosed for your information.

Enclosure

Director, FBI

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1 - Assistant Attorney General - Enclosure Criminal Division Attention: Robert Keuch

HOUSE SELECT CONTITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS

- Personnel file - Stephen M. Callender - Enclosure

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TITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to File No.

New Orleans, Louisiana December 14, 1977

HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS (HSCA)

On December 6, 1977, Special Agent (SA) Stephen M. Callender of the New Orleans Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) was interviewed by Peter G. Beeson, Mark A. Speiser, and Lisa Berlow, Staff Counsel of the HSCA.

The questioning related to the investigation conducted by the New Orleans Office of the FBI regarding the assassination of Martin Luther King.

In response to their initial questions, they were informed that SA Callender has been a Special Agent of the FBT since August, 1951 and that he has been assigned to the New Orleans FBI Office since December, 1961. SA Callender was assigned a case involving the assassination of Martin Luther King within the New Orleans PBI Office. His main duties as case agent were the handling of the "paper" involving the investigation. This included reading and reviewing all incoming and outgoing communications, assisted in assigning of leads, review all investigation conducted to be sure that it was complete and thorough. Joseph T. Sylvester, Jr., in April, 1968, was the Assistant Agent in Charge of the New Orleans Office of the FBI and was overall in charge of the investigation conducted by New Orleans. SA Callender probably was assigned the case by Mr. Sylvester, inasmuch as SA Callender was working on Mr. Sylvester's squad. This squad, among other things, handled Civil Rights and related matters, SA Callender had worked for Sylvester for better than six years and had experience in the handling of "paper" on other major investigations.

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

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ENCLOSURE

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In addition, the Staff Counsel was provided with administrative data relating to the normal procedures in opening and assigning a case as well as the handling of leads and reporting procedures and the closing of cases.

In response to their questions, they were informed that SA Callender had not reviewed the Martin Luther King assassination file in New Orleans prior to this interview and had not conversed with anyone regarding the interview before the "Staff Counsel", other than with a Bureau official, on December 6, 1977 prior to the interview.

They were informed that the last time SA Callender had thoroughly reviewed the King assassination file in New Orleans was possibly eight or nine years ago. There would have been no reason since that time to thoroughly review this file, That within the past six months, small portions of the New Orleans file had been reviewed to locate specific communications which were to be sent to FBI Headquarters, Washington, D.C., upon instructions of the Department of Justice, as a result of a court order being issued in another matter involving King.

It was apparent! from the ensuing questions of the Staff Counsel that they were attempting to determine and were looking for a possible conspiracy in the assassination of King in the investigation conducted by New Orleans.

The Staff Counsel initially pointed out that there was a memorandum in the New Orleans file that a woman, whose name was set forth (name not recalled by SA Callender), reportedly had some information about the King assassination, but was not to be contacted as she was a friend of District Attorney Jim Garrison.

Upon response to questions, SA Callender informed that to the best of his recollection, former District Attorney Jim Garrison of Orleans Parish, New Orleans, had not conducted an investigation into the assassination of King, that instructions had been received from Bureau Headquarters not to have any contact with Garrison prior to the King assassination. This probably was a result of Garrison's claims that his investigation into the assassination of President Kennedy had determined there was a conspiracy and the results of his investigation were at odds with the conclusions of the Warren Commission. It was SA Callender's recollection that

Garrison was critical of the FBI's investigative efforts in the assassination of President Kennedy. They were informed that it had been SA Callender's experience that the FBI would not share sources or informants with other agencies and that Garrison's cooperation in the King investigation had not been solicited.

In response to their questions, they were informed that Kent Courtney was in the newspaper business and that his political reputation was that of a conservative. The Staff Counsel then informed that information supplied to them indicated that Kent Courtney of Alexandria, Louisiana, had contacted the New Orleans FBI Office sometime after the assassination and informed that he was going to interview the brother of James Earl Ray and this brother was going to supply information relating to a conspiracy. Courtney desired an FBI Agent to be present during this interview. According to this memorandum, Courtney was advised an FBI Agent would not be present and that he should contact the District Attorney's Office at Memphis, Tennessee regarding this proposed The Staff Counsel also indicated that there were instructions from the Bureau Headquarters that Courtney was not to be contacted.

In response to their questions, they were informed that the reason Courtney was referred to the District Attorney's Office at Memphis was not recalled, but possibly was because that agency had a primary jurisdiction in the murder of It has been SA Callender's experience that the Bureau's policy in dealing with the press in those days was formulated at Washington, D.C. and for the most part, controlled from Bureau Headquarters and especially in a matter involving the magnitude of the King investigation. They indicated they had received information that a person with the first name of Kent (last name unknown) attended a Ku Klux Klan function at Alexandria, Louisiana and were informed that to the best of SA Callender's recollection, Kent Courtney had not ever been identified as a Klan member. In response to their questions, they were informed that Klan groups active in Louisiana at the time of the King assassination were the Original Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, the United Klans of America, and the Original Knights of the Ku Klux Klan of the 6th District. The Silver Dollar Group was a Klan type organization around the Vidalia-

Ferriday, Louisima, area. It was not recalled if this group was associated with the UKA or the Minutemenn or was a separate organization.

No information had been developed regarding possible involvement of organized crime in this matter. The name of Frank Liberto was not familiar at this time. It was recalled by SA Callender that there had been a conversation between two men in Memphis who were in the produce business which apparently was derogatory in nature regarding King. As a result, an interview had been conducted of an individual in New Orleans who was in the produce business.

That investigation to identify the New Orleans Italian industrialist who reportedly was to give Ray money which information was furnished by Charles Stein had been conducted, however, the extent of the investigation was not recalled. Investigation had been conducted in the area of the Chef Menteur Highway, however, the extent was not recalled. That Willard Robertson was at that time a distributor for Volkswagen, which was located near the Chef Menteur Highway. It was believed Robertson had been interviewed, however, the results could not be recalled.

That attempts were made to identify "Raoul", however the extent was not recalled. That a lieutenant on the Louisiana State Police Force by the first name of Raoul had been located and interviewed, however, the results of the interview were not recalled.

To the best of SA Callender's recollection, the John Birch Society and White Citizens Council, had not been investigated in connection with the King assassination and in fact, neither of these groups had ever been investigated by the FBI in Louisiana. It could not be recalled if investigation was conducted at the Wallace Campaign Headquarters in New Orleans to determine if Ray was known, however, it was believed that this investigation had been conducted.

That bars in the 400 and 500 block of Canal Street in New Orleans had been canvassed inasmuch as Ray reportedly was seen in this area when in New Orleans.

That Bud's Flower Room is located on St. Claude Avenue in New Orleans and is rented out as a meeting hall

to various organizations and that in the past, Klan meetings have been held at this meeting hall.

A group known as "Truth or Consequences" was formed by New Orleans businessmen to raise money for Jim Garrison to conduct his investigation into the Kennedy assassination.

That Cecil Shilstone is a self-employed New Orleans businessman who had been publicly identified as a member of Truth or Consequences. Sometime after the assassination of King, Shilstone and his attorney appeared at the New Orleans Office and informed that a rumor was going around the New Orleans business community that Shilstone allegedly was a New Orleans industrialist who Ray reportedly came to New Orleans to contact and get money. That Shilstone emphatically denied this allegation and that he was not involved in any manner or could he supply any information relating to the King assassination.

That all informants and sources in the New Orleans Division were contacted regarding James Earl Ray in an effort to determine if Ray was known or had any association with any white hate groups or black extremist organization.

That it could not be recalled what investigation may have been conducted at Denham Springs, Louisiana, regarding a remark allegedly made sometime prior to the assassination that a collection ought to be taken up to get somebody to shoot King.

To SA Callender's recollection, there was no racial prejudice among agents assigned to the New Orleans Office and that there was no negro agents assigned to this office at the time of the King investigation. In addition, the "Staff Counsel" mentioned several names of persons, however, these names mentioned were not familiar to SA Callender at this time.

Assistant Attorney General Criminal Division Attention: Mr. Robert L. Keuch

ADERAL GOVERNMENT

December 14, 1977

1 - Mr. Monahan

1 - Mr. Peelman 1 - Mr. Foster

1 - Mr. Aldhizer

1 - Legal Counsel

Director, FBI

HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS U. S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (HSCA)

Reference is made to letter to the Attorney General from G. Robert Blakey, Chief Counsel and Director, MSCA, dated December 2, 1977, which requested information from FBI Headquarters files in the investigation of Martin Luther King's assassination. This letter requested specific material bearing on the FBI's investigation involving a Citizen's Band (CB) radio transmission that occurred on the evening of April 4, 1968.

In response to this HSCA request, enclosed are an original and one copy of a memorandum with an attachment which contains material from FBI Headquarters files concerning the CB radio transmission. It is requested that you furnish a copy of the enclosed memorandum and its attachment to the HSCA.

Enclosures - 3

OSURE Office of Legislative Affairs (Enclosure)

TA:sas (9)

SEE NOTE PAGE TWO

Assoc. Dir. Dep. AD Adm. ___ Dep. AD Inv. ___ Asst. Dir.: Adm. Serv. Fin. & Pers. Intell. Legal Coun. Rec. Mont. Tech. Servs. -Training_ Public Affs. Off._ Telephone Rm. TELETYPE UNIT 🗀 112 DEC 21 1977

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Assistant Attorney General Criminal Division Attention: Mr. Robert L. Keuch

NOTE: All documents requested by the Committee located in the FBI Headquarters MURKIN file which has already been processed for HSCA access.

HSCA staff member Gerald Hamilton requested on 12/13/77, expeditious handling of this request in order that the material can be used at a hearing of the Committee within the next few days.

With respect to the report of the Memphis Police Department being furnished the HSCA, the Memphis Police Department has been previously contacted and has authorized availability of its records to the HSCA. The FCC has similarly authorized availability of its material concerning the CB transmission to the HSCA.



1 - Mr. Monahan

1 - Mr. Peelman

1 - Mr. Foster

1 - Mr. Aldhizer

1 - Legal Counsel

December 14, 1977

HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS U. S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (HSCA)

Reference is made to letter to the Attorney General from G. Robert Blakey, Chief Counsel and Director, HSCA, dated December 2, 1977, which requested information from FBI Headquarters files in the investigation of Martin Luther King's assassination. This letter requested specific material bearing on the FBI's investigation involving a Citizen's Band (CB) radio transmission that occurred on the evening of April 4, 1968.

In response to the above request, attached are documents retrieved from the files of FBI Headquarters concerning the CB radio transmission that occurred on the evening of April 4, 1968, in Memphis, Tennessee.

Since the HSCA has been provided full access to the King assassination file of FBI Headquarters and the Memphis Field Office, the FBI will conduct no review for additional information regarding the CB radio transmission, as requested in referenced letter, and will, therefore, only provide specific documents requested.

Enclosure

ORIGINAL AND ONE, WITH ATTACHMENT, SENT TO ASSISTANT ATTORNEY
GENERAL, CRIMINAL DIVISION, ATTENTION: MR. ROBERT L. KEUCH, AND
ONE SENT TO OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS.

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Assoc. Dir. NOTE: See Director, FBI, letter to Assistant Attorney Genera Dep. AD Adv. Criminal Division, Attention: Mr. Robert L. Keuch, dated 12/	14/77,
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ENCLOSURE

FBI Date: 7/29/68 Transmit the following in _ (Type in plaintext or code) DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861) TO: FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) (P) Murkin SUBJECT Re: CB (Citizens Band) Radio Transmission Memphis, Tennessee, during evening of April 4, 1968, concerning chase of white Mustang alleged to have been involved in the shooting of MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., on that date. Enclosed herewith is one copy each of the following which relate to referenced matter: 1) Investigative report of the Memphis PD Investigative insert by SA FRANKLIN L. JOHNSON FD 302 of interview of Inspector N. E. ZACHARY, Memphis PD, 5/17/68 FD 302 of interview of W. EUGENE SMITH, 4) 4/10/68, Memphis 5) FD 302 of interview of EDWARD L. MONTEDONICO, SR., 7/15-17/68, Memphis FD 302 of interview of EDWARD L. MONTEDONICO, 6) JR., 7/17/68, Memphis 3 Bureau (Encs 6 MATE) 2 - Memphis Telection HEG:mnr λ. Ξ T# AUG I 1968 Special Agent in Charge Registered.

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